

# ARTH 310

## TOPICS IN COLONIAL ART



*Lieutenant-Governor Arthur's proclamation 1830, oil on wood (Sydney: Mitchell Library)*

Art History  
School of Art History, Classics and Religious Studies  
Victoria University of Wellington  
2007

# ARTH 310

## Topics in Colonial Art

Trimester 2, 2007

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<i>Course co-ordinator:</i>	<i>Roger Blackley, Old Kirk 308, phone 463 5802, e-mail <a href="mailto:Roger.Blackley@vuw.ac.nz">Roger.Blackley@vuw.ac.nz</a></i>
<i>Where</i>	<i>Lectures are held in Murphy lecture theatre 101 Weekly tutorials are held in Old Kirk, room 319</i>
<i>When</i>	<i><b>Lectures:</b> Monday, Thursday, 12noon-12.50pm <b>Weekly tutorials:</b> (start in the second week) Wednesdays, 4.10-5pm; 5.10-6pm Thursdays, 2.10-3pm; 4.10-5pm</i>
<i>Administrator</i>	<i>Pippa Wisheart is the Art History Administrator. Her office is in Old Kirk room 306 (phone 463 5800)</i>
<i>Noticeboard</i>	<i>For additional information, see the Art History noticeboard adjacent to Pippa Wisheart's office.</i>
<i>Examinations</i>	<i>The examination period runs from <b>Friday 19 October until Saturday 10 November</b>. The examination period will be posted on the Art History noticeboard.</i>
<i>Office hours</i>	<i>The best times to see Roger are Monday afternoons, or between the tutorials on Thursday afternoon; arrange a time at the end of any lecture.</i>

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## *Course Outline*

**ARTH 310** traces a history of colonial art in the English-speaking Pacific, commencing with the European voyages of the 18th century and the establishment of the convict settlement at Port Jackson (1788). The arts of colonial Australia, New Zealand, Polynesia and the North American 'Frontier' will be explored in terms of the following topics.

- **European exploration, depiction and annexation of new lands**
- **Relationships with and depictions of indigenous peoples**
- **Colonial relationships to landscape**
- **The institutional promotion of colonial identity**
- **The histories and legacies of colonialism**

The course enables you to place the work of New Zealand's colonial artists within a wider context of other nineteenth-century colonial traditions, and will provide you with a broad knowledge of the principal artists and tendencies throughout the Pacific region. You will also be encouraged to explore the ways in which the art history of the colonial era has been constructed and revised by 20th-century scholarship.

**The lecture programme** must be regarded as complementary to your own **reading in the field** and **viewing of published reproductions** (and, whenever possible, **actual examples of colonial art**) and to **tutorial discussions**. It is important also that you read alongside the formal part of the programme.

In line with Art History's teaching objectives, the course will:

- **introduce you to a specialised study of art and a specific area of theory and debate within art history and related disciplines**
- **refine your skills of analysis and interpretation within the specific context of the course**
- **develop your ability to recognise a range of different approaches to art-historical material**
- **have produced substantial pieces of written work which demonstrate your ability to think and write critically**
- **ensure that you are able to use the full range of reference systems in the University library**
- **develop your skills in the presentation, analysis and discussion of visual material in tutorials**
- **provide you with opportunities to view works of art and use other related primary resources.**

**Lectures** may vary from time to time. Adequate notice will be provided should changes occur and, if necessary, a revised programme will be issued at lectures. You are strongly advised to attend all lectures, especially if you expect to do well in the final exam.

All lecture handouts, including **slide lists** and pertinent references for each lecture and readings for tutorials, are available at each lecture, from the Art History Administrator's office (OK 306), and on Blackboard.

**Tutorials** are compulsory, providing an opportunity to deal with topics which complement the lecture programme. Your contribution to tutorial discussions makes a positive difference if you are on a borderline between grades at the end of the course.

**Assignments** are varied. The **percentage weighting** and **due dates** of the different assignments for the final grade are as follows:

<b>One seminar presentation:</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>One essay:</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Final exam:</b>	<b>40%</b>

*\*For those with seminar presentations in the first half of the course, your essay is due on the later date. For those with seminar presentations in the second half of the course, your essay is due on the earlier date.*

**These assignments** provide you with an opportunity to look at art and to read art history and search out critical commentary relating to the period. The assessment is designed to help you develop your analytical and observational ability as well as your research, writing and presentation skills.

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## *Lecture Programme*

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### **Theories and practices**

9 July	1	European art and the world beyond
12 July	2	Collections and historians
16 July	3	Settler colonialism
19 July	4	The 'Frontier' and American art

### **Ethnographies**

23 July	5	The art of encounter
26 July	6	Ethnography and the collection of 'race'
30 July	7	Colonial photography
2 August	8	Racial galleries
6 August	9	Indigenous ethnographies

### **Topographies**

9 August	10	Fatal shores
13 August	11	Surveyors and settlers
16 August	12	Tourism and the geological sublime

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*Mid-trimester break*

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3 Sept	13	Colonialism and ecological catastrophe
6 Sept	14	The land and the people

### **Institutions**

10 Sept	15	Crystal Palace: the world on a stage
13 Sept	16	New Zealand at the international exhibitions
17 Sept	17	Museums and libraries
20 Sept	18	Art societies and art galleries
24 Sept	19	Literature and art

### **Histories and legacies**

27 Sept	20	Architecture
1 October	21	Decorative arts
4 October	22	Narrating colonial histories
8 October	23	Historiography of colonial art
11 October	24	Colonialism and the postcolonial

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## *Tutorial Programme*

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Tutorials are a compulsory part of your art history programme and **attendance at least 8 out of the 11 programmed tutorials is a mandatory course requirement** for ARTH 310.

All tutorials will be held in **OK 319**, except for the field trip to the Alexander Turnbull Library. The timings of this may differ from the usual tutorial times.

Tutorials will consist of discussion around issues raised in lectures and highlighted in selected readings, or of students' seminar presentations and subsequent discussion. Please make sure you are familiar with the relevant readings, located in the ARTH 310 Handbook. The Handbook is available from Student Notes.

### *Week beginning:*

9 July		No tutorial.
16 July	(1)	Introduction and allocation of seminar topics.
23 July	(2)	Discussion: Settler colonialism
30 July	(3)	Tutorial visits to Drawings and Prints, Alexander Turnbull Library. Note that these times may differ from usual tutorial times.
6 August	(4)	<i>Seminar presentations.</i>
13 August	(5)	<i>Seminar presentations.</i>

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### *Mid-trimester break*

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3 September	(6)	Discussion: The politics of race
10 September	(7)	Discussion: Natives and aliens: colonial ecology
17 September	(8)	Discussion: Museums, libraries and colonial heritage

24 September	(9)	<i>Seminar presentations.</i>
1 October	(10)	<i>Seminar presentations.</i>
8 October	(11)	Preparation for exam

## *Assessment and Assignments*

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**ARTH 310 is assessed** by means of an essay, a seminar presentation and an external examination.

Art History has a policy that **extensions will not be granted**. If you have medical or other problems preventing you from meeting a deadline you must contact your course coordinator at the earliest opportunity. Without prior arrangements having been agreed to with the course coordinator, late essays will be penalised by the deduction of two percentage points for each day beyond the due date. Essays should be placed in the art history assignment box in the ground floor foyer of Old Kirk by 5pm on the due date (**17 August or 5 October**).

**Exceptions will not be made** for the following reasons: we cannot privilege some students over others; we must adhere to a defined programme of marking; and results must be furnished to the central Registry on time. It is also important that we ensure that students keep up with the course.

**Attendance at lectures is strongly recommended** although it is not a mandatory course requirement. Lectures provide you with exposure to key visual materials and the opportunity to hear an analysis of various ideas relating to the topics in question.

**At least 8 out of the 11 tutorials must be attended**. An energetic contribution to tutorials ensures that you gain more from the course; it will also make a positive difference if you are on a borderline between grades at the end of the semester.

Essays will be marked by your lecturer, Roger Blackley. A **second opinion** may be requested in the final assessment of any piece of written work. You must pay attention to **setting out, correct spelling and grammar**. Please refer to the handbook, *Researching and Writing Art History Essays*, for guidance.

Typed copy is essential, on one side of the paper only and leaving a **generous margin on the left-hand side**. If writing is not your forte, ask someone else to check your work – many an essay with good ideas is marred by poor presentation.

**Workload:** The University recommends that **18 hours** per week, inclusive of lectures and tutorials, be given to a 300-level course in order to maintain



satisfactory progress. Please ensure that you can set aside at least this amount of time throughout the course. It is not worth taking on a greater work load than you can manage.

**Mandatory course requirements** ('terms') for ARTH 310 are **satisfactory tutorial attendance** (that is, a minimum of 8 tutorials) and **completion of all required assignments**. All requirements must be met by 12 October 2007.

It should be noted that there are **limited ægrotat provisions for the internally assessed portions of the course**. The seminar presentation and the essay must be completed. All requirements are strictly enforced.

**VUW has a strict policy on plagiarism.** Everything submitted for assessment must be your own, individual work. If you wish to quote, always give your sources. Avoid lengthy quotations (over 50 words), especially from other art historians' work, unless you then proceed to comment on or point out flaws in their argument. **Plagiarism**, that is, using other authors' words and/or ideas without acknowledgment, will be penalised.

Art History's policy on plagiarism is as follows:

- a **Minor plagiarism** does not involve large amounts of material and is probably unintentional. You will be advised that you have plagiarised material, warned against repetition, and marked down appropriately.
- b **Major plagiarism** involves considerable amounts of material, and is likely to be intentional. Your work will not be marked, but will be returned to you for resubmission. It will incur late penalties when resubmitted for marking. Serious cases will be referred for disciplinary action.

**In order to avoid plagiarism, always reference quotations correctly.**

*Researching and Writing Art History Essays* (available from Student Notes and on Blackboard) gives rules and sample quotations, as well as a guide to proper referencing procedures in footnotes and bibliography.

## *Seminar Presentations*

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**Seminar presentations** are an integral part of ARTH 310. They provide you with an opportunity for focussed research on a particular artist or topic. These presentations ensure your active involvement in the course and offer students material which supplements the lecture programme.

**Topics will be assigned at the first tutorial, in the week beginning 16 July.** There will be two seminar presentations per tutorial. Your presentation should be 15-20 minutes (maximum). This will allow around five minutes for discussion, which you should be prepared to encourage and lead, and for changeover of slides for the next presenter.

**You must prepare a 1-2 page handout** to be tabled at the time of your presentation. This handout will contain a **list of slides**, a **summary of the main points** including brief biographical information, if appropriate, a **select bibliography** and a couple of **discussion points**.

You will be assessed on the basis of your presentation and handout. You will not be penalised for nervousness or lack of confidence, but the better prepared you are the more likely you will be to overcome any stage fright. An interesting and well-considered approach to your topic will certainly earn you credit.

You are not required to write up your presentation. Nevertheless, you may wish to submit a fuller paper to be taken into account in the assessment process if, for any reason, you are unhappy with the quality of your performance. If you wish to choose this option, you must submit your paper **within one week of your presentation**.

**Roger Blackley is happy to make suggestions for initial readings, which should lead you to further sources. Don't forget to exploit the general sources in the Reading List attached to the course outline. You should feel free to discuss your choice of topic and appropriate readings with Roger.**

A selection of slides will be available in the department for your presentation. Additional slides can be made if material is provided **at least one week in advance**. An overhead projector and a video projector for PowerPoint presentations are available. Photocopies of your presentation handout can be made in the department through Pippa Wisheart (OK 306).

- **NOTE: Seminar presentations are worth 30% of the final grade.**

## *General Information*

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### **General university statutes and policies**

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the Victoria University Calendar available in hardcopy or under "about Victoria" on the VUW homepage at:

[http://www.vuw.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/calendar\\_intro.html](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/calendar_intro.html)

Information on the following topics is available electronically at:

[http://www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/downloads/course\\_outlines\\_general\\_information.pdf](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/downloads/course_outlines_general_information.pdf)

- Academic Grievances
- Student and Staff Conduct
- Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments
- Student Support

### **Taping of Lectures**

All students in the School of Art History, Classics and Religious Studies are welcome to use their own audio-tapes to record lectures. If you want to do this, please see your lecturer, tutor or the relevant programme administrator and complete a disclaimer form, which advises of copyright and other relevant issues.

### **Class Representatives**

Class representatives are elected early in the course. They are supported by the VUW Students' Association, and have a variety of roles, including assistance with grievances and student feedback to staff and VUWSA. Contact details for your class representative will be listed on the Art History noticeboard and on Blackboard.

### **Academic grievances**

If you have any academic problems with your course you should talk to the lecturer, Roger Blackley; the elected class representative may be able to help you in this. If the matter cannot be resolved to your satisfaction, see the Programme Director, David Maskill, the Head of School, Professor John Davidson, or the relevant Associate Dean; VUWSA Education Coordinators are available to assist in this process. If, after trying the above channels, you are

still unsatisfied, formal grievance procedures can be invoked. These are set out in the Academic Grievance Policy which is published on the VUW website at:

[www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/academicgrievances](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/academicgrievances)

### **Academic integrity and plagiarism**

Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means *no cheating*. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

*The presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were one's own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other students or staff.*

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.

*Note: It is however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.*

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct and may be penalized severely.

Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning
- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course
- suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website: [www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html)

### **Students with Impairments** (see Appendix 3 of the Assessment Handbook)

The University has a policy of reasonable accommodation of the needs of students with disabilities. The policy aims to give students with disabilities the same opportunity as other students to demonstrate their abilities. If you have a disability, impairment or chronic medical condition (temporary, permanent or recurring) that may impact on your ability to participate, learn and/or achieve in lectures and tutorials or in meeting the course requirements, please contact the course coordinator as early in the course as possible.

Alternatively, you may wish to approach a Student Adviser from Disability Support Services (DSS) to discuss your individual needs and the available

options and support on a confidential basis. DSS are located on Level 1, Robert Stout Building:

telephone: 463-6070

email: [disability@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:disability@vuw.ac.nz)

The Art History Disability Liaison Person is Pippa Wisheart, Art History Administrator.

telephone 463 5800

email: [pippa.wisheart@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:pippa.wisheart@vuw.ac.nz)

### **Student Support**

Staff at Victoria want students to have positive learning experiences at the University. Each faculty has a designated staff member who can either help you directly if your academic progress is causing you concern, or quickly put you in contact with someone who can. In the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences the support contacts are **Dr Allison Kirkman, Murphy Building, room 407** and **Dr Stuart Brock, Murphy Building, room 312**. Assistance for specific groups is also available from the Kaiwawao Māori, Manaaki Pihipihinga or Victoria International.

### ***Manaaki Pihipihinga Programme***

This programme offers:

- Academic mentoring for all Māori & Pacific students at all levels of undergraduate study for the faculties of Commerce & Administration and Humanities & Social Sciences. Contact [Manaaki-Pihipihinga-Programme@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Manaaki-Pihipihinga-Programme@vuw.ac.nz) or phone 463 6015 to register for Humanities & Social Science mentoring and 463 8977 to register for mentoring for Commerce and Administration courses
- Postgraduate support network for the above faculties, which links students into all of the post grad activities and workshops on campus and networking opportunities
- Pacific Support Coordinator who can assist Pacific students with transitional issues, disseminate useful information and provide any assistance needed to help students achieve. Contact; [Pacific-Support-Coord@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Pacific-Support-Coord@vuw.ac.nz) or phone 463 5842.

Manaaki Pihipihinga is located at: 14 Kelburn Parade, back court yard, Room 109 D (for Humanities mentoring & some first year Commerce mentoring) or Room 210 level 2 west wing railway station Pipitea (commerce mentoring space). Māori Studies mentoring is done at the marae.

### *Student Services*

In addition, the Student Services Group (email: [student-services@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:student-services@vuw.ac.nz)) is available to provide a variety of support and services. Find out more at:

[www.vuw.ac.nz/st\\_services/](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/st_services/)

VUWSA employs Education Coordinators who deal with academic problems and provide support, advice and advocacy services, as well as organising class representatives and faculty delegates. The Education Office (tel. 463-6983 or 463-6984, email at [education@vuwsa.org.nz](mailto:education@vuwsa.org.nz)) is located on the ground floor, Student Union Building.